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Moussa Traore, Mali Head of State, Visits DPRK

President Kim Il Sung exchanged a firm handshake with His Excellency Moussa Traore, Chairman of the Military Committee of National Liberation, Head of State and Prime Minister of the Government of the Republic of Mali. (KCNA Radiophoto)

His Excellency Moussa Traore, Chairman of the Military Committee of National Liberation, Head of State and Prime Minister of the Government of the Republic of Mali, and Madame Mariam Traore made an official visit to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea from May 14 to 19 at the invitation of President Kim Il Sung.

During their stay in the DPRK, they visited various places including Mangyongdae, birthplace of President Kim Il Sung, and talks between President Kim Il Sung and His Excellency Moussa Traore were held twice.

Meanwhile an agreement on economic and technical cooperation and a joint communique were signed between the two Governments.

Following is a digest of the KCNA reports on their six-day visit:

His Excellency Moussa Traore, Chairman of the Military Committee of National Liberation, Head of State and Prime Minister of the Government of the Republic of Mali, and Madame Mariam Traore arrived in Pyongyang on May 14 by a special plane to pay a state visit to our country at the invitation of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, President of the State of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and his wife came out to the airport and cordially met the goodwill envoy of the Malian people.

Arriving together with His Excellency Moussa Traore and Madame were Filifing Sissoko, Member and Permanent Secretary of the Military Committee of National Liberation; Sory Coulibaly, Minister Delegate in Charge of Rural Development of the Military Committee of National Liberation; Moussa Leo Keita, Chief of Protocol of the Republic; Ismaila Kanoute, Technical Councillor of the Prime Minister's Office of the Government; Alidou Toure, General Director of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation; Mamadou Sangare, General Secretary of the Prime Minister's Office of the Government, and others.

Pyongyang, the capital of revolution, was pervaded with great emotion and joy and garbed in festive attire in welcome of the Malian guests.

Present at the airport were Comrades Pak Sung Chul, Chong Jun Gi, Ho Dam and Kong Jin Tae, and Ministers of the Administration Council, responsible personages of working people's organisations and Pyongyang municipal power organs, generals of the Korean People's Army, responsible men of science, education, culture, art and the press and Kim Jung Gol, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of our country to the Republic of Mali.

Also on hand were Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Sinaly Thera and a staffer of the Malian Embassy and foreign diplomatic representatives in Pyongyang.

A grand function was held in welcome of His Excellency Moussa Traore.

Amid the playing of the national anthems of the Republic of Mali and our country and the thunder of a 21 gun salute His Excellency Moussa Traore, in company with the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung reviewed a guard of honour of the three services of the Korean People's Army.

His Excellency Moussa Traore and his wife paid a courtesy call on the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and his wife on the afternoon of May 14.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung had a conversation with His Excellency Moussa Traore in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

Banquet

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung arranged a grand banquet at the People's Palace of Culture on the evening of May 14 in honour of His Excellency Moussa Traore and his wife.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung made a welcome speech. (See below)

Then, His Excellency Moussa Traore made a speech. (See below)

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung together with his wife, paid a return call on the morning of May 15 on His Excellency Moussa Traore and his wife.

Talks

Talks were held in Pyongyang on May 15 between the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, President of the State of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and His Excellency Moussa Traore, Chairman of the Military Committee of National Liberation, Head of State and Prime Minister of the Government of the Republic of Mali.

Present at the talks on our side were Comrades Pak Sung Chul, Chong Jun Gi, Ho Dam and Kong Jin Tae and personages concerned Chong Song Nam and Chon Myong Su and Kim Jung Gol.

Present on the Malian side were Filifing Sissoko, Sory Coulibaly, Sinaly Thera, Moussa Leo Keita, Ismaila Kanoute and Alidou Toure.

Views were exchanged at the talks on the question of strengthening and developing the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries, international problems of common concern and a series of other problems and a complete identity of views was reached on all problems discussed.

The talks proceeded in a sincere and friendly atmosphere.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung together with his wife, arranged a luncheon on May 17 in honour of His Excellency Moussa Traore and his wife.

The luncheon proceeded in a cordial atmosphere overflowing with friendly sentiments.

Talks were held in Pyongyang on May 18 between the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, President of the State of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and His Excellency Moussa Traore, Chairman of the Military Committee of National Liberation, Head of State and Prime Minister of the Government of the Republic of Mali.

Views were exchanged at the talks on a number of questions of common concern.

The talks proceeded in a sincere and friendly atmosphere.

DPRK Order to Mali Head of State

A ceremony for awarding an order of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to His Excellency Moussa Traore was held in Pyongyang on May 18.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung awarded the Order of National Flag First Class to His Excellency Moussa Traore and the Order of National Flag Second Class to Madame Mariam Traore.

Orders and medals of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea were also awarded to the entourage of His Excellency Moussa Traore.

Highest Order of Mali to President

A ceremony for awarding orders of the Republic of Mali to the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and his wife was held in Pyongyang on May 18.

His Excellency Moussa Traore awarded the "Grand National Cross," the highest order of the Republic of Mali, to the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and the "Order of Grand National Officer" to his wife Comrade Kim Song Ae.

Orders of the Republic of Mali were also awarded to cadres of our country and personages concerned.

Pyongyang Mass Meet

A grand Pyongyang mass meeting welcoming His Excellency Moussa Traore was held at the Pyongyang Indoor Stadium on May 18.

Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great leader of our Party and our people, and his wife, together with His Excellency Moussa Traore and his wife, were present at the mass meeting.

Kang Hyon Su, Chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee, made a welcome speech at the meeting.

Then His Excellency Moussa Traore spoke amid the warm welcome of the attendants.

Concluding his speech, His Excellency Moussa Traore loudly shouted "Long live Marshal Kim Il Sung!" in Korean.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung firmly shook hands with His Excellency Moussa Traore when the latter returned to his seat after the speech.

His Excellency Moussa Traore and his wife arranged a grand banquet at the People's Palace of Culture on the evening of May 19 in honour of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and his wife.

His Excellency Moussa Traore spoke at the banquet.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung made a speech next.

His Excellency Moussa Traore, Chairman of the Military Committee of National Liberation, Head of State and Prime Minister of the Government of the Republic of Mali, and his wife left Pyongyang on May 19 by special plane after successfully concluding their itinerary.

Speech of Marshal KIM IL SUNG

At Banquet

Your Excellency esteemed Mr. Moussa Traore and Madame Mariam Traore,

Esteemed guests from Mali,

Comrades and friends,

Today we have the great pleasure of cordially receiving Your Excellency Mr. Moussa Traore, Chairman of the Military Committee of National Liberation, Head of State and Prime Minister of the Government of the Republic of Mali and our intimate friend, and Madame Mariam Traore and other Malian guests.

On behalf of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Korean people, I warmly welcome your visit to our country.

The current visit to our country by Your Excellency Mr. Moussa Traore is a momentous event in the promotion of friendly relations firmly established between our two peoples on the same road of anti-imperialism and independence.

And, Madame Mariam Traore, you came a long way to pay your second visit to our country. This manifests your particularly deep trust in us and shows more vividly the beautiful feelings of friendship between the two countries.

Asia and Africa share a common destiny and the Korean and the Malian peoples formed long ago unbreakable bonds of fraternal friendship through their common struggles against imperialism, colonialism and racism.

This friendly relationship has been consolidating and developing amid the practical struggles of the countries of the new-emerging forces to safeguard independence and has now reached an unprecedented height.

The Malian Government and people recognized the Democratic People's Republic of Korea as the sole legitimate power of the Korean people and have always rendered active support to our people's cause of national reunification in the international arena.

At the Conference of Foreign Ministers of Non-Aligned Countries and the 30th Session of the UN General Assembly last year, too, Mali gave a great help to our people in winning brilliant victories of historic significance.

For this, I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate my heartfelt thanks to Your Excellency Mr. Moussa Traore and to the Malian Government and people.

Today, under the correct leadership of Your Excellency Mr. Moussa Traore, their outstanding leader, the Malian people are waging an energetic struggle to consolidate their political independence and achieve economic self-support on the principle of self-reliance.

The Malian people are creating a new life, full of hope and confidence, valiantly surmounting temporary difficulties in their way of advance, especially the severe natural calamities which have lasted for several years now.

We warmly congratulate the Malian people, with time-honoured history and cultural traditions, on their achievements made in the building of a new society, regarding them as a common success for the countries of the new-emerging forces.

The successes made by the Malian people in the creation of a new life and the non-aligned policy consistently maintained by the Malian Government contribute to the acceleration of the complete liberation of Africa and the strengthening of the solidarity of the new-emerging forces.

At present the old colonial powers attempt to shore up by all means the white minority racist regimes in southern Africa as the last strongpoint of their colonial domination in Africa, and are trying to alienate the African countries from each other and make them fight among themselves through crafty double-dealing tactics and disruptive activities.

No amount of their desperate efforts can, however, check the process of the great regeneration of Africa, and the day will surely come when the whole continent of Africa will be completely liberated.

Today the peoples of Asia, Africa, Latin America and the rest of the world are taking the road of independence. This is the main trend of our times which no force can resist.

In Asia, our people have waged a long vigorous struggle for sovereignty, independence and the building of socialism in direct confrontation with imperialism, and have always been victorious in this struggle.

In the future, too, we will struggle unyieldingly, in firm unity with all peoples of the world who advocate independence, to accomplish our cause of national reunification and achieve the common goals of peace and democracy, national independence and socialism.

The present situation calls for ever stronger unity of the countries of the new-emerging forces in Asia, Africa and Latin America to cope with the disruptive moves of the imperialists.

The forthcoming Fifth Summit Conference of Non-Aligned Countries to be held in August will mark a new milestone in strengthening the unity of the non-aligned countries representing the new-emerging forces.

We consider the current visit of Your Excellency Mr. Moussa Traore to our country to be of great significance in promoting the solidarity and cooperation between the non-aligned countries, with the Summit Conference of Non-Aligned Countries in the offing.

Esteemed guests,

During your stay in our country you will see at first-hand the successes achieved by our people in the socialist revolution and construction by applying the Juche idea under the leadership of our Party and the struggle of our people for their country's independent, peaceful reunification.

In this course you will personally witness the warm feelings of friendship cherished by our people.

Sincerely hoping that your visit to our country will bear excellent fruits, I propose a toast:

To the prosperity and development of the Republic of Mali,

To the unbreakable friendship and solidarity between the Korean people and the Malian people,

To the unity of the peoples of the world who advocate independence,

To the health of Your Excellency esteemed Mr. Moussa Traore and Madame Mariam Traore,

To the health of the Malian guests,

To the health of the diplomatic envoys of various countries and mesdames and

To the health of all comrades and friends present here.

Speech of Colonel MOUSSA TRAORE

At Banquet

Most respected and beloved Your Excellency Marshal Kim Il Sung,

Most respected Your Excellency Madame Kim Song Ae,

Excellencies messieurs heads of diplomatic missions,

Distinguished hosts and brothers-in-arms of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea,

Dear comrades and friends,

Spending a day which myself and each member of my delegation will always remember with emotion, I would like, first of all, to express the great pleasure that I feel this evening at your side, Comrade President Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved great leader, and at the side of your valiant comrades-in-arms and the courageous people of Korea.

My pleasure is all the greater because it is my first visit to Korea.

Allow me to express our earnest and sincere gratitude to you and the cadres of your country and population of Pyongyang for this exceptionally warm and friendly welcome to us and your most cordial words given to me and our country just now.

Please believe that we Malians had eagerly waited for this moment of our visit to you.

And I confess, Mr. President, that I was particularly moved by the warm welcome that the Korean people reserved for my wife and the delegation accompanying her in October 1975.

Interpreting this emotional welcome to us as a welcome to the entire Malian people, I convey the salute and thanks of all our people to you.

Comrade President,

The world people know that Korea and Mali are separated by a long distance and, if we are to visit each other, we must make a long voyage even by air.

But it is this very distance that testifies the peculiarity and solidity of the friendship existing between our two peoples.

It is, in fact, thanks to these sentiments of friendship that we could surmount this obstacle and establish the solid bonds of friendship and cooperation between us.

Today Korea and Mali are the two countries very close to each other, the two countries which respect each other and have decided to make every effort possible to establish solid, excellent, firm and fruitful relations full of trust between them.

Comrade President,

Our people well know the indomitable bravery and great self-sacrificing spirit displayed by the Korean people in the whole period of their long history in face of multiple obstacles and in face of vicious enemies they fought.

They highly appreciate the immense sacrifices that you made and the great achievements and victories you have attained. It is, therefore, entirely natural for them to express most profound admiration and highest respect to you.

It is not necessary at all, in my opinion, Comrade President, to say that the Government and people of Mali, as sincere and devoted friends of Korea, are firmly standing on the side of you in the just struggle to attain the fundamental objective, that is, the independent and peaceful reunification of great Korea.

The full support and firm solidarity extended by Mali to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea did not start today. This is the duty we will always fulfil.

We know the new vicious efforts which the imperialists direct with blind fever to block the realisation of the reunification of your country; we know also the great danger posed by these efforts to your country and your people and to peace not only in your region but in the whole world in general.

But we know, comrades, your determination to frustrate all these attempts, whatever form they may assume.

We are convinced more deeply than ever before that no matter what stratagem imperialism may resort to, what method it may employ and what accomplices and betrayers it may employ, it can never delay or block the reunification of the fatherland of the Korean people any longer.

The example of Vietnam and Cambodia attests to this.

The reunification of Korea is inevitable; no one can stem or change this current. It will come infallibly one day.

For this reason the Republic of Mali has always supported the just stand of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea that the foreign occupation troops must be withdrawn from the southern half and the Koreans be allowed to decide the means and ways of achieving the peaceful reunification of the country.

Africa, as you know, is engaged in an arduous struggle against imperialism, colonialism, racism and apartheid that still persist on our continent, Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa in particular.

This struggle has today entered a decisive stage and it is required that the assistance of our friends, socialist countries in particular, to us for the liberation of our continent is more strengthened than ever before in largest scope possible.

Comrade President,

We know well of the deep respect and affection the Korean people have for you.

It is entirely logical that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has registered brilliant successes in the arduous struggle for the economic and social development under your wise leadership and your dynamic impulsion and under the rays of the Juche idea.

The world people know well of the marvellous successes made by your people in the industrial, agricultural, social, scientific and technological fields.

These successes are a legitimate subject of satisfaction and pride not only for the Korean people themselves but also for all their friends across the world, and consequently for our Malians.

Because we attach great significance to the rich experiences of the Korean people, we think we can learn a lot from our contact with the great Korean people and their valiant cadres.

We think that your experiences serve as a very rich precept for us, from which we can draw a precious lesson for our future combat against under-development. We should, to this effect, make a maximum profit of our sojourn among you, I think.

This shows the importance that we attach to this visit which, I believe, will permit us to learn a lot at your side and make the greatest contribution to strengthening the excellent bonds of friendship and cooperation existing between our two countries and two peoples in all domains.

For us Malians, the cooperation between Korea and Mali offers very vast possibilities, the possibilities of which we should all make an exhaustive use.

Permit me, excellencies, dear comrades and friends, to raise a toast to the good health and long life of the respected and beloved leader President Kim Il Sung;

To the health of Madame President Kim Song Ae;

To the successes of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Korean revolution;

To the prosperity of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the happiness of its people;

To the development and consolidation of the bonds of cooperation and friendship between the Korean and Malian peoples;

To the health of their excellencies messieurs heads of diplomatic missions and their wives present here; and

To the health of all the friends present at this banquet.

Talk of President KIM IL SUNG with Editor-in-Chief of Japanese Magazine "Sekai"

President Kim Il Sung had a talk on March 28 in the North Hamgyong Province with Yasue Ryosuke, Editor-in-Chief of the Japanese politico-theoretical magazine "Sekai" who was on visit to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

President Kim Il Sung recalled that the U.S. and other imperialists are making desperate efforts to extricate themselves from the economic crisis, using the double-dealing tactics. The Korean question, he said, is a part of the international affairs. He declared: the present rulers of south Korea are acting entirely on orders of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency. Therefore, the reunification problem can not be solved until they have freed themselves from the control of the U.S. CIA.

By keeping south Korea in their grip, he said the U.S. imperialists aim at tightening their control of Japan which is essential to colonization of other Asian countries and at making south Korea permanent raw material source and military base to contain the Soviet Union and China.

He blamed the stalemate of the dialogue on the treacherous acts of the south Korean side. For resumption of the dialogue, it is necessary for the south Korean authorities to put an end to the fascist rule and give up the nation-splitting manoeuvres.

He pointed out that Korea's reunification makes it imperative for the south Korean and Japanese peoples to get awakened, and added that it is important to get the world public support for Korea's reunification and widely expose the unjustified acts of the U.S. imperialists in south Korea.

The Korea-Japan relations will be smoothly developed, he stated, when the United States takes its hands off Japan, and he discorded the nod for the DPRK to take any initiative.

He reclarified the conduct of the DPRK's diplomatic policy as designed to prevent the split of the third world countries by all means and strengthen their unity.

The following is the full text of the talk.....Ed.

I am very glad first of all that you, Mr. Yasue Ryosuke, have come to our country, and warmly welcome you. And I am very grateful to you for the kind words you have just addressed to me.

I should have met you in Pyongyang, but my present on-the-spot guidance has prevented my doing so. Because you are supposed to go home soon, I have invited you to come all the way here like this. I hope you will understand this.

I have looked through your questionnaire in which you asked me to explain many problems including the questions of Korea's reunification and Korea-Japan relationship. I have also read the content of your talk with our functionaries. Upon reading it I realized that you are deeply concerned about our country and our activities.

You asked me to explain the reunification question of Korea at length, so I am going to mention, first of all, a few points about the reunification question of our country.

Because the Korean question is a part of the international affairs in general, the problem of Korean reunification is unthinkable apart from the world's situation.

Since your last visit to our country, the world's situation has undergone a very complex change. Recent years have witnessed a great change in the international situation.

The raw materials, fuel and food crises have become aggravated on the worldwide scale and many capitalist and imperialist countries are in the grip of an economic crisis.

The U.S. imperialists, in particular, are in a serious fuel crisis. Saying that the United States has fuel resources to last it only 30 years to come, the Americans themselves speak out loudly that they should secure new fuel markets, new fuel bases. U.S. State Secretary Kissinger cannot be regarded as having spoken for nothing when he openly said that if the Arab nations should use the fuel weapon the United States would resort to real weapons. This we can say is a cry of distress given by the imperialists gripped in the vise of a crisis.

As the non-aligned states, the countries of the third world put up an energetic struggle to protect their natural resources, the imperialists are falling into an ever more serious economic crisis and find themselves floundering in an economic panic.

The imperialists are now making desperate attempts to wriggle out of the economic crisis.

They are intensifying their manoeuvres to split and alienate the non-aligned states, the third world countries from each other, perpetrating overthrowing, subversive activities in all parts of the world.

The United States is using its food weapon against the fuel weapon of the third world countries. Besides, it is producing large quantities of weapons and selling them to other countries at high prices, while supplying weapons to such countries as cannot manufacture them to cause them to feud and antagonize and fight among themselves. Thus, it is now trying to get out of the crisis. This is one of the tactics employed now by the U.S. imperialists in Asia and many other parts of the world.

The United States is ostentatiously holding the signboard of "peace" while stepping up its war preparations secretly.

The U.S. authorities are resorting to the double-faced tactics. On the one hand, they employ the tactics of putting up the signboard of "peace" to fool people while, on the other, working craftily to expand military bases and step up war preparations.

Outwardly, the U.S. imperialists are loud-mouthed about "peace" and "easing of tensions," but, in actual fact, have not waived their wild design for world domination. Strategically, the U.S. imperialists are now preparing for a world war.

They are trying to find a way out of the economic crisis in a war. Seen from a historical point of view, too, this is how the imperialists used to behave themselves. Whenever they found themselves in an acute economic crisis they sought for a solution in a war. The First and Second World Wars were also products of such manoeuvres on the part of the imperialists.

Just before the Second World War, too, the imperialists concluded "non-aggression treaties" and "neutrality pacts" with other countries under the signboard of "peace." But in the long run, they unleashed the war. No war is started on a prearranged date. The imperialists hasten their war preparations behind the screen of "peace" and start war at any time when the chance arrives.

While stepping up the war preparations, the U.S. imperialists are now scheming to find a solution by splitting the countries of the third world and destroying them one by one.

The Korean question, too, should be studied in the context of such aggressive moves of U.S. imperialism.

The U.S. imperialists are applying to Korea the same artifice of aggression they are employing everywhere in the world. They are scheming to divide our country and continue to hold south Korea in their grip.

In trying to keep south Korea in their grip, the U.S. imperialists aim primarily at tightening their control of Japan. They think that only when they have control over Japan can they treat other countries of Asia as colonies.

The U.S. imperialists want to keep south Korea under their thumb partly because they want to make south Korea their permanent raw material base. It is a fact that they lust for the raw materials in south Korea. Sometime ago I found an article in a certain country's magazine which predicted that Korea had huge oil deposits, which might possibly touch off troubles in Korea. It looks like that the U.S. imperialists are craving for the oil resources found in the continental shelves near the Korean Peninsula.

To the U.S. imperialists it is also essential to have control over south Korea as a military base. They want to seize the whole of Korea and, further, realize their world domination by using south Korea as their military, strategic base. They want south Korea as a military base to contain the Soviet Union and China and tighten their control of Japan.

After their ignominious defeat in Indochina the U.S. imperialists are further straining the situation in our country, precisely because they want to attain these aggressive ends. The Korean question is more complex now than when I first met you.

At present the U.S. imperialists are blackmailing us seriously with threats of war. By mobilising the publications in their service they keep clamouring about a "plan for nine-day operations" or a "plan for five-day operations," and are openly speaking out that they would unhesitatingly use even nuclear weapons if a war should break out in Korea some day.

They have already deployed numerous nuclear weapons along the Military Demarcation Line in our country, and recently are carrying out boisterous war exercises every day. Sometime ago they went the length of mobilising their marines stationed in Okinawa for a vociferous war exercise. If they want the peaceful reunification of Korea, why should they keep holding war exercises noisily? Not we but exactly the U.S. imperialists are obstructing the peaceful reunification of Korea.

The U.S. imperialists do not want Korea's reunification, and neither do south Korea's present rulers. The latter are colluding with the former. The present south Korean rulers are acting strictly on orders from the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency. Therefore, unless they are out of its control, the question cannot be solved. The present rulers of south Korea have handed south Korea over to the U.S. imperialists as a military base and the latter try to continue to use it as a colonial, military base.

Since the U.S. imperialists' strategy to keep Korea divided and perpetuate their occupation of south Korea remains unchanged, we cannot expect their immediate withdrawal from there. In the light of the prevailing situation now, the U.S. imperialists are hardly likely to give up south Korea and withdraw.

The Korean question is confronted with a very great difficulty. So it is by no means a simple matter. The Korean question is more complicated and difficult than the question of Indochina.

In order to drive the U.S. imperialists out of south Korea, the south Korean, Japanese and other Asian peoples must be awakened and fight forcefully against them. However, the south Korean people and a considerable number of Asian people are not yet sufficiently awakened to the sinister aggressive activities of the U.S. imperialists and do not wage a vigorous struggle against their presence in Asia and their domination and control of Asian nations. Some south Koreans do hate U.S. imperialism, but there are still some others who regard U.S. imperialism as "benefactor" who gives them some sort of "favour," and think that only when they cling to the U.S., can they be given rice to eat.

The present rulers of south Korea and Japan do not oppose the colonial rule of U.S. imperialism; they obey it faithfully. With its backing, they are craftily working to prevent the peoples from awakening, while harassing and repressing them in various ways. The rulers are engrossing the peoples in finding a way out of their dire poverty.

Judging from the prevailing situation, it seems that the question of Korea's reunification will be solved through a hard-fought struggle.

Now I will reply to your question concerning the situation following the publication of the north-south joint statement.

The north-south joint statement published in July 1972 makes clear the three principles of national reunification—reunifying the country independently and peacefully and achieving great national unity by transcending the differences in ideologies, ideals and systems. These are good principles.

The three principles clarified in the north-south joint statement were proposed by us and the south Korean authorities agreed to them. When publishing this statement, the south Korean authorities consented to the three principles—independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity—and solemnly pledged before the whole nation that they would implement them in good faith.

However, as soon as the north-south joint statement was published, the south Korean authorities negated one by one the principles and agreements in this statement. They published the north-south joint statement on the one hand, and, on the other, negated it. This appears to be the tactics of the U.S. imperialists.

When publishing the north-south joint statement, we put forward the principle of independence, presupposing that Koreans should reunify the country by themselves without relying on the U.S. or on any other nations. The south Korean authorities, too, declared that they, as Koreans, would seek a policy of national reunification for themselves, without relying on a big power or any other foreign countries.

But at a press conference held the day after the publication of the north-south joint statement, a high-ranking official of south Korea made an absurd statement that because the UN was not an outside force, the "UN forces" must continue to be stationed in south Korea. This was a plain utterance that rejected the principle of independence made clear in the north-south joint statement. If, when meeting us, the south Korean authorities had said that they tried to solve the question of national reunification through relying on outside forces or they intended to perpetuate the division of the country, we would never have published the joint statement with them.

The south Korean authorities also denied the principle of great national unity agreed upon in the north-south joint statement. If the south Korean authorities had even the slightest willingness to collaborate with us on the principle of great national unity, transcending the differences in ideologies, ideals and systems, they should desist from their anti-communist policy. How can they achieve the great national unity, opposing communism, instead of collaborating with communists? Following the publication of the north-south joint statement, the south Korean authorities intensified their "anti-communist" campaign slandering and opposing the northern half of the Republic; they claimed that there was no reason, no ground whatsoever for them to revise the "anti-communist law" and the "national security law."

The puppet clique of south Korea continued with their activities for national partition in violation of the principles and agreements of the north-south joint statement on the independent and peaceful reunification of the country and, in June 1973, they advocated that the north and south of our country should enter the UN separately. This laid bare their true intention to internationally legalize and perpetuate our nation's division. Since liberation up to date our people have already suffered from indescribably great misfortunes and pains because of the split of the territory and nation, and how can we tolerate their activities to perpetuate it? As the U.S. imperialists do not quit south Korea, it is impossible to reunify the country right away, but it is absolutely unnecessary to legalize the division. We cannot legalize and recognize the permanent division of the country.

Legalizing and perpetuating the division of the nation is a treachery to sell out the country and the people, it is a crime that can never be erased out of history. We have no desire at all to hand down to posterity a historical record of treachery on the country and the nation being sold out.

Why, then, is the north-south dialogue at a stalemate now?

At present the south Korean authorities are alleging that the north-south dialogue has been disrupted because we are insincere. But that is not true.

We started the north-south dialogue for the purpose of creating favourable conditions for achieving great national unity and hastening the country's reunification as much as practicable. In order to achieve the great national unity in accordance with the principles of the north-south joint statement, it is necessary to guarantee the democratization of society and the freedom of political activity of all political parties, groupings and personages of all walks of life.

The south Korean authorities, however, are imprisoning and savagely repressing many patriotic democrats, youth and students of south Korea who fight against the division of the country and for the democratization of south Korean society. The reactionary rulers of south Korea had Kim Dae Jung kidnapped in Japan in broad daylight and are repressing him through a trial, because he opposed their policies against the country and the people; and they jailed poet Kim Ji Ha because he had written a poem that criticized them. They stigmatize any opponent as a communist and, on the charge of the violation of the "anti-communist law," are arresting, imprisoning and murdering him brutally. The reactionary south Korean rulers are repressing numerous religious people and even the former south Korean "president" Yun Bo Son on the charge of the violation of the "anti-communist law." Nobody would believe that such people as the religious people and Yun Bo Son are communists.

How can we meet the south Korean authorities and hold a dialogue when they are repressing the patriotic democrats, youth and students so harshly? We can no longer tolerate the fact that the south Korean authorities are intensifying their repression of south Korea's patriotic democrats, youth and students behind the signboard of dialogue.

And since the south Korean authorities are trying to detain foreign forces by the sleeve and working to perpetuate the division of the country, we cannot resume our dialogue with them. We mean to have talks in order to reunify the country; and what is the use of meeting them, when the south Korean authorities try to keep the country divided? It is of no use to hold talks for the partition of the country with those who seek the division of the country.

In the present situation the north-south dialogue is impossible, however hard we try to resume it. The present south Korean authorities do not understand our intentions, because they have no policy, think nothing of the nation and humanity, and have no logic. A dialogue is tenable when each party's intentions are understood, so how can a dialogue be held when we are not understood?

We can resume the dialogue even now if the south Korean authorities stop repressing the democrats, release the arrested and detained youth, students and patriots, desist from their fascist rule and take the road to democracy, stop the activities for national division and move towards reunification.

We have never disrupted the north-south dialogue; we always keep the door to the dialogue open. We have proposed on a number of occasions to convoke a great national congress composed of representatives of all political parties and social organizations, personages of various circles and the Democratic Republican Party of south Korea included, and hold discussions on problems of the reunification of the nation.

Next, I will answer to your question on the peace agreement.

Right now, our country is in frontal confrontation with the U.S. imperialists. So we must conclude a peace agreement with U.S.; we cannot do so with anybody else.

It is the U.S. imperialist aggressors who are acting as masters in south Korea now. They have full command of armed forces there. It is also the U.S. imperialists who concluded the military armistice agreement with us. The question of replacing the armistice agreement with a peace agreement should be settled only by the DPRK and the U.S. authorities that factually signed the armistice agreement and have real powers to guarantee peace in Korea.

The south Korean authorities oppose this reasonable proposal of ours; they ask how it is possible to have U.S. troops withdraw from south Korea and conclude a peace agreement without any alternative. But we had made clear the detailed measures to be taken after the conclusion of the peace agreement.

As one of the detailed measures for easing tensions between north and south after the signing of the Korea-U.S. peace agreement on condition that U.S. troops are withdrawn from south Korea, we proposed, first of all, to reduce the number of the armed forces of the north and the south to 100,000 or less respectively. In addition, we proposed that the north and south prevent armed conflict with each other, that the north and south refrain from resorting to force of arms against each other and that both parties resume talks on the country's reunification in accordance with the three principles of national reunification clarified in the north-south joint statement. It is absolutely untrue that there is no specific proposal on what is to be done following the conclusion of the peace agreement.

Although the specific steps to be taken after the conclusion of the peace agreement between Korea and the U.S. were explained, the U.S. and south Korean authorities deliberately claim that there is no alternative, because they do not want to conclude a peace agreement. The U.S. authorities are unwilling to sign a peace agreement with us.

Two years have elapsed since a letter was sent to the United States Congress in the name of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea proposing that negotiations be held on the question of replacing the Korean Armistice Agreement with a peace agreement. But the United States has not yet replied to the letter. And last year the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution calling on the powers signatory to the Military Armistice Agreement of Korea to withdraw the U.S. troops from south Korea and replace the armistice agreement with a peace agreement. The U.S. imperialists are ignoring the resolution of the UN General Assembly as well. Even a UN General Assembly resolution falls flat with the U.S. imperialists. To the U.S. imperialists only what they themselves utter makes law but what others say cannot be law. This is just what the U.S. imperialists are like.

Judging by all the facts, the United States authorities do not want to conclude a peace agreement with us because they aim to prevent the reunification of our country and keep it divided for ever.

When we proposed the United States to conclude a peace agreement, the south Korean authorities came forward with a proposal for the so-called "non-aggression pact." This "pact" is not designed for the reunification of our country. The purport of the "pact" is that the north and the south of Korea should remain divided as two states and promise not to attack each other. In the final analysis, this is designed to legalize the partition of our country. Even though our country is divided temporarily, why should we sign a meaningless "non-aggression pact" legalizing the division? The peace agreement we proposed and the "non-aggression pact" the south Korean authorities put forward are essentially different.

The U.S. imperialists and the south Korean authorities keep on fussing about the fictitious "threat of southward invasion." In Korea today there exists the threat of northward invasion from the south, not the threat of "southward invasion" from the north. Not we but precisely the U.S. imperialists and the south Korean authorities are creating the danger of war; we are not threatening south Korea but the U.S. imperialists are threatening us. Who will believe that such a small country as ours is threatening the United States that is seeking to dominate the world? No people in the world believe it. And yet the U.S. imperialists and the south Korean authorities persist in their unfounded argument that we are threatening south Korea. Quite contrary is the fact; the Americans are threatening us, refusing to conclude a peace agreement and hold a dialogue with us.

What, then, should be done in the feture to solve the question of Korea's reunification?

In my opinion there must be some conditions matured and a certain length of time needed for the realization of Korea's reunification. The people's struggle will never emerge victorious automatically.

The reunification of our country requires, first of all, the awakening of the south Korean people and also the awakening of the Japanese people.

The people in south Korea and the Japanese people should awake and wage a joint struggle against U.S. imperialism's aggression and interference, thus making it impossible for the U.S. imperialists to control south Korea and Japan any longer. This is prerequisite for an early solution of the question of our country's reunification. But as yet their forces are not strong enough to do so.

The democratic forces in south Korea are now fighting in difficult conditions caused by the south Korean puppets' repression which is being intensified under the U.S. imperialists' wirepulling. But I think the south Korean and Japanese peoples will be further awakened through their struggle in the future, since they suffered greatly in the past and waged many struggles to extricate themselves from the sufferings.

Although they are now living helplessly, the south Korean people will certainly become awakened under the enemy's intensified fascist repression and gradually turn out in a struggle. Historical experience affords good illustrations of this.

The more the reactionaries' repression becomes cruel, the more the people will be awakened.

Broad sections of the people in the world are now gradually awakening in the course of struggle. Thus the general situation is developing in favour of world peace and the progressive people the world over.

A few days ago I met a government friendship delegation from Ethiopia. In monarchical Ethiopia the reactionary rulers suppressed the people very cruelly. The rulers' suppression of the people reached the extremes and the people suffered from starvation. Thus the people's anti-government sentiments mounted daily and, at last, young officers rose in revolt and toppled the monarchical regime. After the overthrow of monarchism Ethiopia is following the progressive path. At present Ethiopia is carrying out the land reform and making a national democratic revolution in many respects.

The state of affairs in Portugal is similar. In the past Portugal was no less fascistized than Spain under Franco's reign. But now the people are striving energetically to follow the road of democratic development. Of course, that country has a number of complicated problems yet to be solved. But, in any case, the more ruthlessly the people are suppressed, the more rapidly the progressive forces grow. This has been proved by facts.

The democratic forces of south Korea are weak now, but the south Korean people will sooner or later awaken to become a formidable force for national reunification. The south Korean people can never go in rags and hungry indefinitely, without any political liberties and rights, under the oppression of the puppet clique.

I believe many of the Japanese people think that Japan should get out of U.S. control and follow the path of independence.

Further, it is of importance for the solution of Korea's reunification question to arouse more extensively the world public opinion subscribing to the reunification of Korea and expose before the people throughout the world the unwarranted acts committed by the U.S. imperialists in south Korea.

It is necessary to arouse the opinion of the peoples of the world on the Korean question on a wider scale, so that broader segments of the peoples of the world should be acquainted better with the national misery and distress the Korean people are suffering owing to the division of the country and the nation.

Now the south Korean authorities are scheming to fascistize south Korea as the Franco clique of Spain did, but it is no more than a fantastic daydream.

In the future, we will widely introduce and publicise to the peoples of the world the criminal barbarities perpetrated by the U.S. imperialists in south Korea and the pains suffered by the south Korean people under the fascist tyranny, and more vigorously stir up the world public opinion on the Korean question. At present the opinion of the peoples of the world as to the goings-on in south Korea is not called up as widely as it should be.

Only when the opinion of the peoples throughout the world supporting the Korean people's cause of reunification is aroused more briskly, is it possible to avert war in Korea, preserve peace in Asia and reunify Korea in a peaceful way. We will strive to excite world public opinion on the Korean question more vigorously and thus make the Korean question the focal point of attention both in the Asian and the world affairs.

When the opinion of the peoples of the world regarding the Korean question is stirred up, the awareness of the people and democrats in south Korea will also increase and their fighting will and spirit rise higher. In particular, when the solidarity movement is conducted briskly in Japan in support of the Korean people's struggle for national reunification, it will further stimulate the south Korean people in their democratic movement.

Now I would like to touch briefly on the question of Korea-Japan relations.

This question also relates to the United States. Only when the U.S. takes its hands off Japan can the relations between Korea and Japan develop smoothly.

At present the Japanese government consults the Americans in dealing with every question and acts in accordance with the "two Koreas" policy of the United States. So the question of Korea-Japan relations cannot be settled.

Japan should take an attitude of assisting in the reunification of Korea and should have the hope that we in Korea, its next-door neighbour, will live in peace, without quarrelling. I think many Japanese now hope this. However, the Japanese government tails after the U.S. imperialist policy to divide our country into "two Koreas." Because the Japanese government is moving by the U.S. imperialists' locomotive on the track of their strategic policy, there is no way of improving the relations between Korea and Japan.

(Continued on page 3)

Talk of President KIM IL SUNG with Editor-in-Chief of Japanese Magazine "Sekai"

(Continued from page 2)

We are not disappointed at the Japanese government's unfriendly attitude towards our country. The Japanese government takes this attitude not in accordance with the Japanese people's will but in accordance with the will of the U.S.; it is the doing of a handful of Japanese reactionaries who follow the United States. That is why we do not blame the Japanese people in the slightest.

Since the question of improving the relations between Korea and Japan is not yet on the order of the day, we consider that it is of no use to raise this question to the Japanese government; we don't think it necessary.

In the future, too, we will continually strive to strengthen our friendship and solidarity with the Japanese people, and will do everything possible to this end.

Now, on your question concerning our foreign policy.

Our foreign policy is the same as in the past.

The important aspect of our foreign policy is to strengthen solidarity with the third world countries, the non-aligned countries.

Since their latest economic crisis started, the U.S. imperialists have intensified their activities to split the third world countries and the non-aligned countries. In disuniting these countries, they try to take advantage of their vulnerable points. As for those countries that are in short of food, the U.S. imperialists give them some food in an effort to realize their demands; and they provide some countries with weapons in order to make their political demands on them. On the whole, the present U.S. imperialist strategy is to disorganize the third world countries and the non-aligned countries to prevent them from uniting together.

The U.S. imperialists fear the unity of the third world countries more than anything else. Through their experience at the UN the U.S. imperialists have often felt that the unity of the third world countries is undesirable. As the third world countries united and vigorously fought to prevent the reduction of the prices of raw materials and against their arbitrary plunder, the U.S. imperialists were more terror-stricken. So the U.S. imperialists are now stretching out their hands not only to Latin-American countries but also to Asian and African countries, and are carrying out extensive activities to divide these countries.

Our present policy is to do all we can to prevent the third world countries from being disunited and strengthen their solidarity.

At present the third world countries have quite a few hardships. First of all, they have many economic bottlenecks. Therefore, it is essential for the third world countries to strengthen their economic cooperation. The third world countries can overcome the economic difficulties if they closely cooperate with each other on the principle of filling each other's needs.

The next headache for the third world countries is that they have not yet solved the question of their own native cadres. In the past when they ruled these countries, the imperialists prevented them from training the native cadres. As a result, these countries have now very few technicians: All they have are only some experts of civic science.

At present the third world countries are laying emphasis on agriculture, which I think is very good.

In recent years, under the influence of the cold front, not only the countries situated north of the equator but also those near it have suffered great damages. In this situation, it is very important that the third world countries take agriculture in hand, determined to solve the food problem for themselves. Taking agriculture in hand will enable them to solve the food problem for their peoples quickly and thus preserve their national independence and sovereignty of the country.

Our country is increasing economic cooperation and political unity with the third world countries, the non-aligned countries. It is true that ours is a small country, and we cannot give much help to other countries economically. However, we pass on our experience to the third world countries and send them our technicians who are capable of undertaking irrigation projects.

With the summit conference of non-aligned states ahead, the non-aligned countries are making preparations to take part at the conference. Now everybody consents to the non-aligned countries forging unity. But what is important is how the non-aligned countries should achieve their unity and how they can avoid becoming a cat's-paw of the imperialists. Therefore, I think, the forthcoming summit conference of non-aligned states will exhaustively discuss the strengthening of their international solidarity.

The third world countries will not be disorganized and cut into pieces in accordance with the imperialist strategy. The people are ever watchful of the manoeuvres of the imperialists. The U.S. CIA will not be able to pull the wool over the eyes of the people no matter what crafty and insidious artifice it may resort to. The wild ambition of the U.S. imperialists will be frustrated in the long run.

These are my general answers. If you have any further questions you may ask them.

QUESTION: May I understand that there remain unchanged your conceptions of the spirit of the July 4 north-south joint statement, the proposals made by your country after its publication, in particular, on the Confederal Republic of Koryo advanced on June 23, 1973 by Your Excellency Mr. President?

ANSWER: Our proposals made in the north-south joint statement are still effective. We intend to continue to struggle to carry them through.

However, we do not mean that we will never agree to other than what we propose. If both the north and south sit together and have serious discussions, there may emerge better proposals. Then we are ready to agree to them. Even if some of our proposals are not put into effect, we will not insist only on our views for the sake of great national unity and the country's reunification. We are going to subordinate everything to great national unity and to the cause of national reunification.

QUESTION: Your Excellency Mr. President always says that you will not interfere with south Korea, that you have no intention to impose the socialist system on south Korea, and that different political systems can exist and people with different religious beliefs can live in one country. Nevertheless, there have been various speculations about this. What are your views?

ANSWER: At present the south Korean rulers are widely spreading a lie that we intend to "communize" south Korea and impose communism on it. More than once we have already declared that we would not force socialism upon south Korea. If we do not impose the socialist system of the northern half of the Republic on south Korea and the south Korean authorities do not try to destroy our socialist system, we think, we, both of us, one and the same nation, can move forward together while keeping two systems intact. If both sides settle problems of common national interest and concern by united efforts, it will be greatly conducive to the coordinated progress of the country and the people.

True, class antagonisms have already disappeared in the northern half of the Republic, but the class problem is yet to be solved in south Korea. How to settle class relations in south Korea is a matter of the south Korean people themselves. We will not meddle in it.

QUESTION: Those who well understand what Your Excellency Mr. President has just said interpret it correctly. But some people, while gradually forming correct views through struggles, are apprehensive lest socialism should be imposed on them amid possible confusion after they have overthrown Pak Jung Hi through hard efforts. What are your views on this?

ANSWER: At present some south Korean democrats fear lest the communists might take advantage of their democratic movement to impose socialism on them. We have more than once declared that we will not impose socialism on south Korea. So we will not do such a thing.

Let the south Korean people themselves choose the road to take. If socialism is forced on them they will suffer indigestion. It is meaningless to force socialism on those who do not understand socialism correctly.

We have no intention to impose socialism on south Korea; and we have no plan to do so. In dealing with any question we are consistent in our opposition to subjectivism. Subjectivism is incompatible with the principle of socialism and communism.

QUESTION: At present the U.S. has nuclear warheads in south Korea. And last year the U.S. Secretary of State threatened and blackmailed your country, declaring that if you "invade the south" they would check it with nuclear weapons. As regards this statement, I would like to ask Your Excellency Mr. President if you have the idea of forestalling it with nuclear weapons.

ANSWER: We have no intention of arming ourselves with nuclear weapons. We have not enough money to produce nuclear weapons or any adequate place to test them.

The U.S. imperialists say they will use nuclear weapons if war breaks out in Korea, in order to browbeat us.

Even if war bursts forth in Korea, they would not be able to use nuclear weapons. How can they use nuclear weapons here in Korea when the opposing forces will grapple with each other? Should the enemy use nuclear weapons, he will also get killed. That is why I called fools those who said they would use nuclear weapons if war broke out in Korea.

At present the south Korean rulers are stubbornly asking the imperialists for a nuclear umbrella, but we do not ask other countries for nuclear weapons or a nuclear umbrella.

QUESTION: The speculation is rife concerning negotiations between your country and the U.S. I would like to hear Your Excellency Mr. President's views on it.

ANSWER: We have a lot of problems, including that of a peace agreement, on which we must settle an account with the U.S. authorities. So we do not mean that we are not willing to have any talks or contact with them.

But, under any circumstances, we will have talks or contact with the U.S. on an equal footing, not in such a way as to entreat them.

We are ready to have talks with the U.S. authorities even now if they accept our proposal to replace the armistice agreement with a peace agreement. But the U.S. authorities have not yet given any answer to our proposal on the conclusion of a peace agreement or have shown any affirmative reaction. Therefore, we do not want to go to the trouble of knocking at the door, begging them for a dialogue.

We have already tapped at the door, asking the U.S. for talks on the question of concluding a peace agreement. But the U.S. authorities have given us no reply. So, we cannot ask them to have talks with us against their will, can we?

QUESTION: There has recently been much talk about "cross recognition." I know well that Your Excellency Mr. President is totally against it. If China, the Soviet Union, the United States and Japan take some initiatives, and this not in the form of "cross recognition," in connection with the reunification of your country, will you reject all of them no matter what they are?

ANSWER: The question of other countries' so-called "cross recognition" of the north and the south of our country is also connected with the fundamental question of the reunification of the country.

The present "government" of south Korea is against national reunification, insists on the split of the nation, detains the outside forces by the sleeve and hinders great national unity. So, the recognition of this "government" implies not reunification but permanent division for our country. The south Korean authorities prattle that reunification would be possible even after the north and the south join the UN as "two Koreas." This is a hackneyed trick of the quislings. We can never agree to the so-called "cross recognition" proposed by the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys for the purpose of creating "two Koreas" and dividing our country into north and south for good.

Some people say: The present south Korean authorities hold "government", and how can they be ignored? But the present "government" of south Korea is not an independent government the independent states should deal with. Therefore, as far as this "government" exists there can be no "cross recognition" of the north and the south of our country.

We are positively opposed not only to the question of "cross recognition" of the north and the south of Korea, but also to any form of initiatives that envisage the division of our nation. Of course, as far as an initiative leading to our country's reunification is concerned, that is another matter.

As for the present south Korean "government", no relations should be maintained with it, but it must be thoroughly isolated. Positive support should be given to the people of south Korea in their struggle for democracy, so that a democratic government is established in south Korea. If the south Korean authorities stop fascist suppression—arresting and jailing people and democrats—and if they frankly admit their past crimes against the country and the people and promise to stop such acts, then the matter will be different.

QUESTION: Your Excellency Mr. President has remarked very briefly on the question of Korea-Japan relations. Yet, I think your brief remarks have explained everything. Nevertheless, I should like to ask a few more questions.

If the Japanese government's attitude remains unchanged as it is now, should we think that the question of concluding the much-talked-about fisheries agreement is infeasible?

ANSWER: If it is a private fisheries agreement, not one between the two governments, I think it is feasible. Needless to say, even a private fisheries agreement should be guaranteed by the Japanese government.

QUESTION: I think it is a fairly good thing that after the "Shoseimaru" incident the Japanese government suggested the conclusion of a fisheries agreement with your Republic. What do you think about this?

ANSWER: In Japan there was once much talk about the need to conclude a fisheries agreement between Korea and Japan. And it was also said that a fisheries delegation would be dispatched to our country. I do not know well if that was the intention of the Japanese government or of some individuals. But, in any case, we want contact and mutual visits between the Korean and the Japanese people, and we cannot close our gate to our neighbour Japan. So, if the Japanese government allows and guarantees it, I think the question of fisheries relations between the individuals of Korea and Japan can possibly be solved to some extent.

I am very glad I have met and talked with you after a long interval.

Vice-Premier Hong Won Gil Passes Away

PYONGYANG (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Central People's Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Administration Council of the DPRK on May 16 published an obituary of Comrade Hong Won Gil, which says:

Comrade Hong Won Gil, Member of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea; Deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly, Member of the Central People's Committee and vice-Premier of the Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, passed away at 23 hours 50 minutes on May 16, 1976, at the age of 51 after a long illness, causing much sorrow to us.

Comrade Hong Won Gil was a revolutionary soldier who remained single-heartedly loyal to the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung.

Upholding the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, he dedicated all his energy and talent to the struggle for the building of a new fatherland.

During the Fatherland Liberation War, he devoted himself to munitions production in the rear for victory in the war, holding aloft the leadership of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, the ever-victorious iron-willed brilliant commander and great military strategist.

In the period of post-war rehabilitation and construction, he fought resolutely for the thorough implementation of the unique line and policy of economic construction put forward by the great leader.

Under the wise leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, Comrade Hong Won Gil took an active part in the fulfilment of the socialist revolution and, holding high the policy of socialist construction advanced by the great leader, waged a devoted struggle to develop the engineering and metal industries and increase the nation's economic potential.

The obituary notes that Comrade Hong Won Gil firmly established the unitary ideological system of the Party and remained boundlessly faithful only to the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, and devoted all his energy to the struggle for the prosperity and development of the fatherland and the happiness of the people and the victory of the cause of socialism and communism in our country, till the last moments of his life, following the teaching of the great leader.

The state funeral committee for the late Comrade Hong Won Gil announced that the coffin of the deceased was carried out of the hall at 10 hours on May 18.

State Funeral Committee Formed

The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Central People's Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Administration Council of the DPRK decided to hold a state funeral for the late Comrade Hong Won Gil and formed the following state funeral committee:

Comrade Kim Il Sung

Comrade Kim Il, Comrade Choi Yong Kun, Comrade Kim Dong Gyu, Comrade Kang Ryang Uk, Comrade Pak Sung Chul, Comrade Choe Hyon, Comrade O Jin U, Comrade So Chol, Comrade Rim Chun Chu, Comrade Li Gun Mo, Comrade Kim Yong Ju, Comrade Yon Hyong Muk, Comrade Yang Hyong Sop, Comrade Li Yong Mu, Comrade Hyon Mu Gwang, Comrade O Baek Ryong, Comrade Han Ik Su, Comrade Chong Jun Gi, Comrade Kang Song San, Comrade Ho Dam, Comrade Choe Jae U, Comrade Kong Jin Tae, Comrade Li Ho Hyok, Comrade Yun Gi Bok, Comrade Li Jong Ok, Comrade Kim Hwan and Comrade Choe Jin Song.

Gen. Choe Hyon Elected as National Defence Com. Vice-Chairman

PYONGYANG, May 16 (KCNA)—The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, President of the State of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, issued on May 14 a decree of the Central People's Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on releasing Comrade Choe Hyon from the post of the Minister of People's Armed Forces on account of his health and appointing him as vice-Chairman of the National Defence Commission.

Gen. O Jin U Named as People's Armed Forces Minister

PYONGYANG, May 16 (KCNA)—The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, President of the State of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, issued on May 14 a decree of the Central People's Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on appointing Comrade O Jin U, Chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army, as Minister of People's Armed Forces.

DPRK Admitted to "Group of 77 Countries"

PYONGYANG (KCNA)—A ministerial meeting of "the group of 77 countries" of developing countries was held in Nairobi on May 10, according to a report from Nairobi.

It unanimously decided to admit the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to "the group of 77 countries" as its full member.

Kim Gyong Ryon, head of the delegation of our country, made a speech at the meeting that day.

In his speech he said that the admission of our country to "the group of 77 countries" would contribute to further strengthening and developing the friendly ties and mutual relations among the developing countries and stressed that the Korean people would firmly unite with the proples of the new emerging forces of the world and wage an active struggle for destroying the old international economic order and establishing a new one in conformity with the demand and order of our era, the era of independence.

Our country will make all efforts to further develop the friendly relations with the developing countries in accordance with the independent and principled foreign policy invariably maintained by our country and actively participate in the work of "the group of 77 countries," he stressed.

After the meeting, delegates of many countries came to our delegation and warmly congratulated it on the admission of our country to "the group of 77 countries".

Our country's admission to "the group of 77 countries" as its dignified member is another shining victory of the independent, principled and aboveboard foreign policy of the Republic laid down by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and a demonstration of the high authority and prestige of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea daily prospering and developing under the wise leadership of the great leader.

DPRK Chief Delegate Speaks at 4th UNCTAD Meeting

Minister of Finance Kim Gyong Ryon, head of the government delegation of our country, made a speech at the May 10 Session of the Fourth Meeting of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development held in Nairobi, according to a report from Nairobi.

He said:

Today the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America are waging a powerful struggle in the concerted effort to break the old international economic order framed by the imperialists in the past and establish new international economic relations and order.

This is a struggle against the imperialists' arbitrariness in the field of international economic relations and for the defence of independence and a struggle to liquidate old and new colonialism and cut the last life-line of imperialism.

Referring to the successes made by the developing countries in the struggle for establishing a new international economic order over the last years, he stressed:

The interests of the peoples of developing countries should be thoroughly defended at the discussion of all the questions at the meeting.

He denounced the imperialists for viciously scheming to continue to dominate, subjugate, exploit and plunder the developing countries by a neo-colonialist method.

He emphasized:

The peoples of the new-born independent countries should build an independent national economy on their own efforts, firmly believing in their own strength. This is most important in the struggle to eliminate the ever-widening gulf between the rich and the poor manifested between developed countries and developing countries and establish a new international economic order on the basis of equality and independence.

Self-support in economy is a prerequisite to building an independent and sovereign state and a material basis of political independence.

He continued:

It is an important question in the struggle for destroying an old international economic order and establishing a new order to strengthen solidarity and expand and develop economic and technical cooperation among the developing countries.

The Korean people will as ever firmly unite with and help the peoples of developing countries and further strengthen the economic and technical cooperation on the principle of filling each other's needs.

News in Brief

Apr. 29

* Arturo Armando Molina, President of the Republic of El Salvador, met the delegation of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea headed by its Chairman Hwang Jang Yop on a visit to El Salvador.

May 4

* A government delegation of the DPRK headed by Li Chang Son, Minister of Culture and Art, on a visit to Jamaica met her Foreign Minister who was authorized by Michael Manley, Prime Minister of Jamaica.

May 6

* Moussa Traore, Head of State, Premier of the Government and Chairman of the Military Committee of National Liberation of Mali, received Kim Jung Gol, Ambassador of the DPRK to Mali.

May 7

* Seretse Khama, President of the Republic of Botswana, met Chong Sung Gyu, Ambassador of the DPRK to Botswana.

* Carlos Andres Perez, President of the Republic of Venezuela, met the delegation of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK headed by its Chairman Hwang Jang Yop on a visit to Venezuela.

May 11

* The 24th home-visiting group of compatriots from Japan headed by Li Bong Ju, vice-Chairman of the Niigata Prefectural Headquarters of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryun), flew into, Pyongyang.

* The Administration Council arranged a banquet at the Okryu Hall in Pyongyang in honour of the delegation of Zambian economic workers on a visit to the DPRK.

May 12

* The Central People's Committee of the DPRK made public a decree on appointing Comrade Chang Hak Myong as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the DPRK to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

* Luis Echeverria, President of the United States of Mexico, received the government delegation of the DPRK headed by Li Chang Son, Minister of Culture and Art, on a visit to the country.

May 13

* Dumitru Popa, Romanian Ambassador to the DPRK, hosted a film show at his embassy on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the conclusion of the cultural agreement between the DPRK and the Romanian Socialist Republic.

May 14

* Kang Won Ju, Director of the Korea-Japan Export and Import Corporation under the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryun), arrived in Pyongyang by plane.

* Kim Un Hwan, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the DPRK to Democratic Cambodia, newly presented his credentials to Khieu Samphan, President of the Presidium of State of Democratic Cambodia.

May 15

* Tadeusz Bialkowski, Ambassador of the Polish People's Republic to the DPRK, arranged a film show and a cocktail party at his embassy on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the conclusion of the agreement on cultural cooperation between the Governments of the DPRK and Polish People's Republic.

* A 1976-1977 plan for cooperation between the Korean-Soviet Friendship Society and the Union of Soviet Societies of Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and the Soviet-Korean Friendship Society was signed in Pyongyang.

* A delegation of the tele-communications and electronics society under the General Federation of Industrial Technology of Korea left Pyongyang by train to attend a Scientific Seminar of the A.S. Popov Scientific and Technological Society of Radionics and Communications to be held in the Soviet Union.

May 18

* Comrade Kim Dong Gyu met Ochirin Tsend, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Mongolian People's Republic to the DPRK, who paid a farewell visit prior to his return home at the recall of his home country.

(KCNA)

US-Japan Duet for GI Presence

Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Albert recently palavered that "the U.S. troops' presence must be continued" in south Korea, "highly developed military equipment must be supplied in sufficient quantities" to south Korea to counter "any state of emergency" and "assistance" must be continued to the stooges to "strengthen bonds" with them, according to a report from Washington.

Albert's blast reveals in all its nakedness the persistent design of the U.S. to stay in south Korea for an indefinite period and perpetuate the split of Korea.

The House speaker further claimed that this was for "the attainment of a common goal." He meant by this the control of the whole of Korea with south Korea as the stepping stone.

Chiming with this blast, Japanese Ambassador to the United States Togo speaking at Lewis and Clark College, Portland, Oregon State of the United States, on May 11 parroted the U.S. claim that the U.S. troops present in south Korea are "playing the role of keeping equilibrium" in Korea and the U.S. forces are the "forces to deter a war" in the Northwest Pacific region.

This reckless remark of Togo is intended to justify the U.S. policy for Korean aggression to perpetuate the split of Korea and keep south Korea as a permanent colony; it is an unpardonable challenge to the entire Korean people and the world's peace-loving people.

The Japanese reactionary forces vindicated the U.S. imperialists' scheme to perpetuate Korea's division and remain in south Korea permanently at a time when it has become an irresistible trend of the times to demand the withdrawal of the U.S. imperialist aggression troops from south Korea and the reunification of Korea and a resolution reflecting this demand was adopted at the United Nations. This stripped naked their black-hearted intention to quell the desire of the Korean people for reunification and more zealously help the U.S. in executing the policy of Korean aggression.

The U.S. forces' stationing in south Korea is the main obstacle to peace in Korea and her peaceful reunification.

Nevertheless, the Japanese reactionary forces vindicated the U.S. troops' presence there, deliberately destorting the truth of this stark fact. This is a desperate bid to attain their sinister aim by taking advantage of the U.S. Korean aggression.

The Japanese ambassador disclosed the ulterior design of the Japanese reactionaries to realize their wild ambition to reinvade south Korea with the backing of U.S. imperialism.

This, at the same time, revealed the Japanese reactionaries' crafty aim to bolster up the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique who have become an "international orphan" thoroughly isolated within and without and convert south Korea into their colony, commodity market and slave market, ushered in by this clique.

The Japanese reactionary forces had better look straight at the changed reality of today and stop such a foolish act as barring the peace in Korea and her independent reunification.

The U.S. imperialists must be mindful that a reckless aggressive act only spells self-destruction. They must discard the foolish dream and quit south Korea at once, taking along their aggression forces and lethal weapons.

374th MAC Meet Held:

Arms Reinforcement Protested

PANMUNJOM (KCNA)—The 374th meeting of the Military Armistice Commission was held at Panmunjom on May 13 at the proposal of our side.

According to the statement made by Major General Han Ju Gyong, senior member of our side, at the meeting, the south Korean puppet clique at the instigation of the U.S. imperialist aggressors committed vicious gun-firings at our side in the Demilitarized Zone and criminal acts of introducing heavy and automatic weapons there.

The enemy fired machineguns into areas of our side on 61 occasions in the period from March 29 to May 10.

The enemy infiltrates armed bandits into the portion of our side in the Demilitarized Zone, and committed the criminal acts of introducing heavy weapons into the zone on 60 occasions in the period from March 29 to May 10.

The U.S. imperialist aggressors and the south Korean puppet clique at their instigation committed grave espionage and hostile acts against our side in the air and on the sea.

The U.S. imperialist aggressors infiltrated the high-speed, high-altitude reconnaissance plane "SR-71" and military aircraft into the air above the Military Demarcation Line and committed espionage acts against our side. Meanwhile, the south Korean puppet clique dispatched PCE to our coastal waters to carry out espionage activities.

The enemy committed 42 cases of such criminal acts in the period from March 29 to May 10.

Thus, the U.S. imperialist aggressors and the south Korean puppet clique committed more than 60 cases of espionage acts against the northern half of the Republic by mobilising the high-speed, high-altitude reconnaissance plane "SR-71" and other military aircraft and more than 120 cases of espionage acts by mobilizing naval vessels during the period from the beginning of this year to May 10.

The senior member of our side lodged a strong protest with the enemy side against the illegal introduction into south Korea by the U.S. imperialist aggressors of more aggression armed forces and combat equipment and their continued provocative war exercises against the northern half of our Republic.

Recently, the U.S. deputy assistant secretary of defence testified at the manpower sub-committee of the U.S. Congress that the U.S. imperialist aggressors committed a criminal act of illegally bringing from Thailand and deploying in south Korea more than one thousand men of the U.S. air force and numerous aircraft at the end of last year.

Not long ago, the U.S. imperialist aggressors introduced into south Korea from Okinawa 500 artillery men belonging to the third U.S. Marine division, howitzers and large quantities of heavy weapons and heavy equipment under the pretext of the "target practice" and now they are scheming to bring again to south Korea modern attack-transport aircraft of latest type, "AC-130s," from the continental U.S.

After stating that the ever-intensified arms reinforcement and new war provocation machinations of the U.S. imperialist aggressors have created a dangerous situation in which a war might be touched off at any moment, the senior member of our side pungently denounced the enemy side saying: Such acts of the U.S. imperialist aggressors are not only flagrant violations of the preamble and sub-paragraph 13rd of the armistice agreement but also abominable criminal acts disturbing peace and obstructing the peaceful reunification of Korea.

He strongly demanded that the enemy side stop at once the reckless military provocations, espionage and hostile acts and all other criminal acts and take out of Korea all the aggression forces.

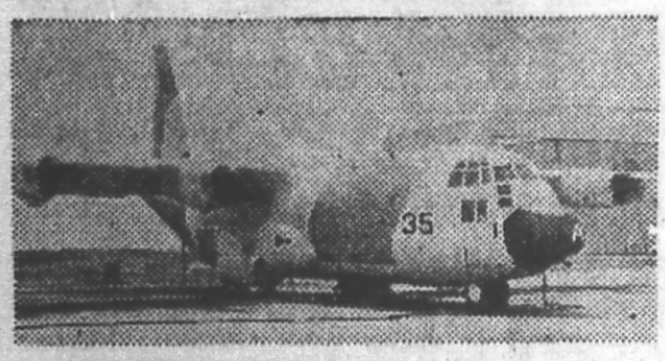

Photo shows a new Lockheed-made attack craft "AC-130" to be deployed in south Korea from the U.S. mainland.

Kissinger on Tightrope

Today the U.S. imperialists are trying with increasing frenzy to stem a powerful trend toward independence.

Employing the "peace" strategy along with the undisguised policy of "strength," they are hard at work as never before to disintegrate the world revolutionary forces from within.

This is clearly borne out by the disgraceful behavior of Kissinger who sneaks into various parts of the world, carrying with him the crafty and vicious, double-dealing tactics of U.S. imperialism.

The double-dealing tactics of U.S. imperialism is laid bare in all nakedness wherever Kissinger, the mouthpiece of U.S. imperialism and the servant of U.S. monopoly capital, sets foot.

The recent African tour of Kissinger furnished salient proof that though the U.S. imperialists pretend to be sympathetic in words with the liberation struggle of the Zimbabwe people, they in actuality help the Smith racists and continue to encourage and instigate them to the racist outrages and try in an underhand way to maintain the racist regime in Rhodesia.

The true colour of fox-like Kissinger was stripped naked already at the time of the Middle East war in October 1973.

Taking upon himself the role of peace "mediator", he conducted "shuttle diplomacy" without precedent in history, making such fine-sounding remarks that the United States is working to bring about "a durable peace" in the Middle East region, "taking no one's side" in the Middle East war and "the rights of the Palestinian people should be taken into consideration" in the settlement of the Middle East problem.

After making such honey words to the Arab countries, Kissinger gave assurances to the Israeli aggressors that the United States would render 2,200 million dollars of "emergency aid" needed to replenish the military power consumed in the war. The world knows this full well.

Kissinger is the executor of the crafty aggressive policy of instigating the Zionists to strangle the Arab peoples while singing a peace "psalm" to the latter.

The true nature of Kissinger who acted as a peace "mediator" was brought into bolder relief in early 1975 when he threatened not to refrain from the use of armed forces against the Middle East countries which raised the oil price and restricted the oil supply to the imperialists encouraging the Israeli aggressors.

In March Kissinger, speaking of the basic policy of U.S. diplomacy, expressed his dislike for the just struggle jointly waged by the non-aligned countries against the arbitrariness of imperialism and colonialism in the United Nations and other international bodies and insulted those countries, saying they were "staking" and they would have to "pay dear" for their act.

In his testimony at the hearing at the U.S. Senate Intelligence Committee and in his interview with a U.S. weekly, he twaddled that "a major threat in the world comes from local disputes" and the United States "cannot rule out the possibility of using nuclear weapons in a local war" in case it is "related with the national interests" of the United States.

The double-faced and crafty nature of Kissinger was more fully revealed in his attitude toward the Korean question.

Kissinger announced more than once that he "supports" the principles of the July 4 north-south joint statement and hopes for Korea's peace and peaceful reunification.

But when we proposed to replace the Korean Armistice Agreement by a peace agreement, he brought forward "quadruple talks" to becloud our just proposal. When the Korean people and the world people raised higher their voices demanding the U.S. imperialists withdraw their aggression troops from south Korea in accordance with the fair resolution of the United Nations, he showed his brigandish nature, shamelessly making a threatening statement that as the stationing of the U.S. troops in south Korea accords with "the national interests" of the United States it will "allow no" third party to "meddle in" this matter.

The outrageous statement of Kissinger that the stationing of the U.S. troops in south Korea is in "the national interests" of the United States is a revelation of the ulterior motive of the U.S. imperialists to keep occupying south Korea indefinitely and invade the northern half of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Asian Continent with it as a springboard.

For his crafty nature Kissinger the rascal was picked up as the executor of the double-dealing tactics employed by the U.S. imperialists on the downhill to save themselves from the doom.

Though the U.S. imperialists are resorting to the double-dealing tactics by putting up such dirty juggler as Kissinger, they cannot save themselves from the doom which has already been sealed up.

The world people are awakened. They do not want to be slaves of others.

The world people who call for independence are vigorously struggling to build a new world free from imperialism.

This is the trend of our time which no force can block. The world revolutionary people will firmly unite, deal a coup de grace at imperialism and build a world conforming to the era of independence.

The U.S. imperialists must look straight at reality and stop running riot.

The people clearly see the deathbed frenzy of U.S. imperialism in the sleight-of-hand of Kissinger on tightrope.

Peaceful Reunification Comm. Indicts Pak's 15-Yr. Dictatorship

PYONGYANG (KCNA)—The Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland May 16 published an indictment denouncing the treacherous acts committed by the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique in the past 15 years after usurping power under the manipulation of the U.S. imperialists.

Recalling that the Pak Jung Hi clique of traitors grabbed power on May 16, 1961 under the manipulation of the U.S. imperialists, the indictment brands the Pak Jung Hi clique of traitors as a brutal strangler of freedom and democracy, an arch traitor selling off the country and the nation, a burglarious plunderer piling up fortunes through the extortion of the people and shady channels, a vicious splittist standing opposed to peaceful reunification and a hysteric warmaniac seeking a fratricidal war.

The indictment, to begin with, denounces the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique as a rank traitor selling off the country and the nation and a vicious quisling who has left south Korea dependent on outside forces.

Noting that the Pak Jung Hi military gang has neither philosophy nor politics and thinks nothing of the nation and humanity, the indictment exposes its crimes in ushering in foreign aggressors and turning south Korea more completely into a colony of the U.S. imperialists in all spheres, political, economic, military and cultural.

The indictment condemns traitor Pak Jung Hi as the most heinous traitor putting Li Wan Yong and Song Byong Jun into the shade and the traitor without an equal in the world, who outmatches all the successive south Korean traitors who preceded him.

Brandin the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique as an ignorant military gang, truculent strangler of freedom and democracy an ferocious fascist dictator, the indictment roundly exposes its barbaric suppression of the people.

The indictment condemns the Pak Jung Hi clique as a fascist terrorist who spews forth deadly poison through all his pores of skin, a murderer seeking a thrill of joy in killing people and the butcher of the nation who wields power on the sea of blood of the compatriots.

The indictment drags into the light of day the crimes of the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique as a war servant of the U.S. imperialists and warmaniac seeking a fratricidal war against the nation.

It exposes that the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique has turned south Korea into huge military barracks, offered the whole of south Korea to the U.S. imperialists as their military base and incessantly perpetrated war provocation acts against the northern half of the Republic.

Calling the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique a beastly plunderer who bleeds the people white for his personal wealth and glory, the ringleader, the most truculent brigands and the chieftain of swindle and corruption, the indictment exposes that this gang has converted south Korea into "a kingdom of robbers", "a kingdom of crimes" and "a kingdom of corruption".

The Pak Jung Hi clique, the robbers carrying rifles and swords, the human derelicts inferior to a dog, and a pack of wolves thirsty for blood, must be swept away, it says.

Indicting the crimes of the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique the mortal enemy of peaceful reunification and vicious nation-splittist seeking the perpetuation of split and "two Koreas", it points out that the beasts have led the north-south dialogue to a state of complete rupture, opposing the peaceful reunification of the country and resorting to more undisguised nation-splitting manoeuvres.

The indictment says that with no artifice can the south Korean puppets justify their treacheries in insisting on north-south confrontation and pursuing the freeze of split to gratify their wild ambition for long-term office under the aegis of the foreign aggressors, turning a deaf ear to the urgent request of the times and history.

Our people, it declares, will never allow the criminal intrigues of the aggressors and the traitors to split the country and the nation into two in our generation.

The history of bitter distress experienced by the south Korean people over the last 15 years goes to prove that neither the question of putting an end to the colonial rule of the U.S. imperialists and establishing national sovereignty in south Korea nor the question of holding in check the Japanese reactionary forces' reinvasion and preventing a new disaster nor the question of realising democratization of south Korean society and achieving the independent and peaceful reunification of the country can be solved as long as the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique is left alone, remarks the indictment.

It calls upon the south Korean people to wage a relentless struggle to force the U.S. imperialist aggression troops out of south Korea, destroy their colonial rule, smash the Japanese reactionary forces' reinvasion and overthrow the military fascist dictatorship of the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique.

Trial of 18 Civic Leaders Fails

The second trial of those involved in the "declaration for democracy and national salvation" staged at the puppet Seoul district criminal court on May 15 was foiled again by the strong protest of the "defendants" and their families and defense counsels.

At the court the 18 dissident democrats denounced the fascist trial and reclarified the justness of the declaration.

Yun Bo Son said: "The abolition of the 'revitalized constitution', the withdrawal of the emergency measures and the resignation of the present government" called for in the "declaration for democracy and national salvation" are "my assertions." "I have long asserted that the emergency measures are a violation of the constitution and null and void, there is nothing wrong in that this assertion is known at home and abroad." "The emergency measures are illegal ones providing for detaining everyone on any charges. It is too mild to say that they are an evil law. They are absolutely illegal."

The other "defendants" strongly protested against the fascist trial. They said: "We want an open trial." "The court is so strictly guarded that we cannot stand trial free from fear." "This trial is an oppression of religion." "The atmosphere of the court is deplorable."

Defence counsels made a strong protest joining the "defendants." They said: "As those admitted to the court are severely questioned, there is no free atmosphere. Only a terror-ridden atmosphere prevails. Under such condition, a normal proceeding of the trial cannot be expected."

They rejected the groundless "charges" and demanded that "they be withdrawn."

When the puppet judges ignored the demand of Kim Dae Jung that he be allowed to "meet freely with the defense counsels for a prompt and fair proceeding of the trial," the defense counsels walked out, declaring that they "cannot plead" for "the accused."

Refusing to answer questions and demanding an immediate suspension of the trial, Kim Dae Jung said: "I cannot answer the questions of the prosecution at the present stage. I need sufficient discussion with defense counsels." "Why do you continue questioning without the presence of defense counsels?"

The families of the detained and other people gathered outside the court despite the strict guard of the police and put up a fierce fight against the police bandits.

Revolted by the "strict guard," they protested against the trial, demanding the removal of the barricades set up in front of the court and burning admission tickets before the eyes of the policemen.

That day, the families issued a statement in denunciation of the illegal trial.

Kim Dae Jung and his wife at the March 1 prayer meeting held at Seoul's Myongdong Cathedral

Kim Ji Ha Rejects Charges

Kim Ji Ha, a dissident south Korean poet, was unjustifiably put to a trial on May 18 for allegedly violating the notorious "anti-communist law."

At a hearing in the puppet Seoul district criminal court, Kim Ji Ha said he was forced to sign a statement identifying himself as a "communist" under duress during investigations by the KCIA. "I was extremely exhausted and in a state of unclear memory when I was forced to confess against my will to what was untrue", Kim Ji Ha said.

When the prosecutor questioned him about the "case of the People's Revolutionary Party", he resolutely declared: "I wrote that the case of the People's Revolutionary Party is a fabrication. I maintained that the 'revitalized constitution' must be abolished. I think that the trial of the case of the People's Revolutionary Party was null and void because it was conducted under this law".

Pointing to the attempt of the agents of the "KCIA" to label him as a "communist who infiltrated into the religious circle," he stated: "As this is an important matter, I am going to explain it at length".

The trial was a typical one of the "anti-communist trials" in south Korea where law tries ideas.

The examination by the puppet prosecutor concentrated on proving that Kim Ji Ha's criticism of the "government" came from what the prosecutor called his "communist ideas", quoting a number of portions from a memo Kim Ji Ha had written while serving a term in a Seoul prison in 1974 after being convicted of anti-"government" activities. The memo contained nothing but ideas he planned to embody for his future works.

Kim Ji Ha, however, pungently denounced the present "power" as monopolized by the privileged compradors and the corrupt class exploiting the people under the cloak of capitalist law.

The progress of the trial as well as the trial itself was neither covered nor reported at home by the press.

Questions and answers exchanged between Kim Ji Ha and the puppet prosecutor follow in part:

Prosecutor: Don't you mean to denounce the irrational realities under the "regime" by the following words in your memo—"The rich earn money more and more without moving even a finger, while the poor must go on working until they die, unable to make money or even eat enough. The poor go on working, while the rich get money, in spite of the fact that labour produces money?"

The dissident poet Kim Ji Ha on trial

Kim: That is the idea of the hero appearing in my future work "Maltok (stick)." It is not related to my own social ideas.

Prosecutor: Following words must be a portion in your memo—"Differences of status; Liberation must be brought to the people who are suppressed and now in prison by stooges of the bourgeoisie; Let's overthrow the bourgeoisie, the enemy of the people."

I believe the expression "Let's overthrow the bourgeoisie" stems from Marxism, Communism. How about that?

Kim: This idea is not based on Communism but on radical Catholicism, called liberating or revolutionary theology which aims at awakening self-consciousness among the oppressed people for their liberation and freedom. The bourgeoisie described in my memo means those people who are in power and accumulated fortunes under the present vicious dictatorial "regime", and also the privileged compradors and corrupt people who are viciously exploiting the people under the cloak of capitalist law.

Liberation in my memo means what the detained people want.

Prosecutor: What do you mean by the following words in your memo—"capitalists, power, parasites on the outside forces, workers, peasants, struggle"?

Kim: Capitalists, power and parasites on the outside forces mean the present "regime" and privileged compradors fawning upon Pak Jung Hi.

The "yushin (revitalized) system" is equipped with systematical and "legitimate" devices for plundering the people, and depriving the people of their rights to life and their freedom.

Jap. Press Corps Protests

The Japanese press corps consisting of correspondents of 13 press organs of Japan including newspapers, news agencies and radios in Seoul, outraged by the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique's repeated press gag, submitted a letter of protest again on May 17 to the puppet minister of culture and information, according to a foreign report from Seoul.

In the letter they pointed to the puppet clique's criminal act of seizing at the Kimpo airport T.V. films covering the murderous trial held on May 15 against those involved in the "declaration for democracy and national salvation" and delaying delivery to Japan and lodged a strong protest.

The trial was also frustrated by the stubborn struggle of the "defendants" at the court and the strong protest of people including their families and defense counsels. The puppet fascist bandits, afraid that they will be further denounced and rejected if this fact is made known abroad, sent special agents, seized the Japanese correspondents' films at the Kimpo airport and delayed their delivery.

S. Korean Bank's Role in Lockheed Case

The investigation by the Japanese authorities into the "Lockheed scandal" has disclosed Seoul-based "Korean Foreign Exchange Bank"s' involvement in the payoff from the Lockheed Aircraft Corp. to the Japanese ultra right-twinger Kodama Yoshio, the central figure of the scandal in this country.

The Tokyo tax bureau searched on May 12 the Tokyo branch of the south Korean bank, and found there Lockheed's secret account showing its connection with the Japanese fixer.

It is said that Kodama received 440 million *yen* from the Lockheed's Tokyo branch between May and June in 1972. The tax bureau unveiled the fact that the money was paid into the bank by Lockheed through Hongkong.

The scandal has rocked Japan ever since the disclosure before a U.S. Senate subcommittee that Lockheed had bribed a number of top Japanese officials in order to sell its "Tri-Star" to Japanese airlines. The former war criminal Kodama played his role as a middleman in the payoff. He, a rightwing leader, exercises a strong influence on the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party from behind the scene.

Further, the Senate subcommittee disclosed that the aircraft company had a contract with Kodama concerning the sale of "Tri-Star" to the south Korean airlines "KAL."

The recent investigation has proved the existence of the dirty Seoul-Tokyo connection on the "Lockheed scandal."

Kim U Gyun, president of the south Korean exchange bank, was once deputy minister of commerce and industry of Pak's "government". He assumed the present post in 1972. His bank played an important role when Pak Jung Hi purchased 800 hectares of land in Nishi-shirakawa county, Tochigi Prefecture, Japan, as a shelter for an emergency flight from south Korea.

Under the direction of Pak, the land was purchased in 1967 by TSK-CCC based in Tokyo, whose president is a naturalized Japanese Machii Hisayuki—his Korean name is Chong Gon Yong. As Pak's agent, he has close contacts with the "KCIA". In purchasing the land, the Korean-turned-Japanese obtained a loan of 3 billion *yen* from the Japan Real Estate Bank, as the south Korean bank guaranteed its repayment.

Machii became acquainted with Kodama in 1948 at the introduction of the American CIA. Since then, they have been engaged in subversive activities in Korea under the direction of the CIA.

Thus, Machii, former boss of the "Tosei-kai," an underworld group, has long served Kodama as his faithful henchman. In 1962, the notorious Japanese militarist was introduced to Pak Jung Hi by him.

Ever since, Kodama has maintained close relationships with the Pak "regime." The "south Korea-Japan treaty" came into being as a result of Kodama's active mediation.

Today, Kodama is called "my teacher" by Pak and is treated as a "political adviser." Moreover, he was awarded an "order" by the Seoul "government" for his "distinguished service" to the Pak "regime."

There is no doubt that Pak Jung Hi and his clique received huge sums of money from Lockheed. It is widely reported that the Gulf Oil Co. of the U.S. paid 4 million dollars to Pak's political party between 1966 and 1970.

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